

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (currently amended) A method of sharing resources on a social network, comprising:
 - monitoring communications between a plurality of users and a user having a shared resource, the shared resource to be shared amongst one or more of the plurality of users;
 - determining social network data from the communications between the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein the social network data is based on varying degrees of interactions between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource;
 - determining an access level for each of the plurality of users based on the social network data; and
 - configuring an access control list to provide each of the plurality of users the access level determined for accessing the shared resource.
2. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communications are e-mail communications.
3. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the social network data includes one or more of identities of the plurality of users and the user having the shared

resource, a frequency of interaction between all users for a time period, a chronology of the communications, a topic of the communications, and resources attached to the communications.

4. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the access level is selected from the group consisting of a read-only access, a read/write access, an execute access, a create access, an owner access, a no access, an all access, and a control access.

5. (original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the access control list includes a user identification and the access level for the user.

6. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the shared resource comprises one or more of a file, a directory, a user, an input/output device, a peripheral device, portable electronic devices, and a computer system.

7. (currently amended) A social network for enabling resource sharing, comprising:
a social network monitor to monitor communications between a plurality of users and a user having a shared resource, and to determine social network data from the communications between the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein the social network data is based on varying degrees of interactions between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource; and

 a social network access controller to determine an access level for each of the plurality of the users based on the social network data, and to configure the access control

list to provide each of the plurality of users the access level determined for accessing the shared resource, wherein the access control list is continuously updated to add and remove entries or to change access levels as users transitions in and out of the social network or as communications between the users changes.

8. (previously presented) The social network according to claim 7, further including a shared resource provider to provide to each of the plurality of users access to the shared resource based on the access control list.

9. (original) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the social network monitor and the social network access controller reside on a single system.

10. (original) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the social network monitor and the social network access controller reside on separate systems.

11. (original) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the communications are e-mail communications.

12. (currently amended) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the social network data includes one or more of identities of each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, a frequency of interaction between all users for a time period, a chronology of the communications, a topic of the communications, and resources attached to the communications.

13. (original) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the access level is selected from the group consisting of a read-only access, a read/write access, an execute access, a create access, an owner access, a no access, an all access, and a control access.

14. (original) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the access control list includes a user identification and the access level for the user.

15. (currently amended) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the shared resource comprises one or more of a file, a directory, a user, an input/output device, a peripheral device, a portable electronic device, and a computer system.

16. (currently amended) A communications system, comprising:

 a computer-readable medium; and
 computer-readable program code, stored on the computer-readable medium, adapted to be loaded and executed on the communications system, the computer-readable code performing,

 monitoring communications between a plurality of users and a user having a shared resource,

 determining social network data from the communications between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, wherein the social network data is based on varying degrees of interactions between each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource;

determining an access level for each of the plurality of users based on the

social network data, and

configuring an access control list to provide each of the plurality of users the access level determined for accessing the shared resource.

17. (original) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the communications are e-mail communications.

18. (currently amended) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the social network data includes one or more of identities of each of the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource, a frequency of interaction between all users for a time period, a chronology of the communications, a topic of the communications, and resources attached to the communications.

19. (original) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the access level is selected from the group consisting of a read/write access, a write-only access, an execute access, a create access, an owner access, a no access, an all access, and a control access.

20. (original) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the access control list includes a user identification and the access level for the user.

21. (currently amended) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the resource comprises one or more of a file, a directory, a user, an input/output device, a peripheral device, a portable electronic device, and a computer system.

22. (previously added) The method according to claim 1, wherein the social network data includes monitoring communications for particular keyword(s), wherein the access level is granted based on the number of occurrences of the particular keyword(s).

23. (currently amended) The method according to claim 22, wherein different weights ~~may be~~ are assigned to different keywords, wherein certain keywords have higher weights than other keywords.

24. (previously added) The social network according to claim 7, wherein the social network data includes monitoring communications for particular keyword(s), wherein the access level is granted based on the number of occurrences of the particular keyword(s).

25. (currently amended) The social network according to claim 24, wherein different weights ~~may be~~ are assigned to different keywords, wherein certain keywords have higher weights than other keywords.

26. (previously added) The communications system according to claim 16, wherein the social network data includes monitoring communications for particular keyword(s),

wherein the access level is granted based on the number of occurrences of the particular keyword(s).

27. (currently amended) The communications system according to claim 26, wherein different weights ~~may be~~ are assigned to different keywords, wherein certain keywords have higher weights than other keywords.

28. (currently amended) The method according to claim 1, further comprising continuously updating the access control list to add and remove entries or to change access levels as the users transitions in and out of a the social network or as communications between the users changes.

29. (currently amended) The communications system according to claim 16, the computer-readable code further performing,

continuously updating the access control list to add and remove entries or to change access levels as users transition in and out of a social network or as communications between the users changes.

30. (previously added) The method according to claim 1, wherein the communications comprise one or more of emails, instant messages, file transfers, commands sent from one computer system to another, and any other types of communications performed between the plurality of users and the user having the shared resource.

31. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining social network data

comprises:

identifying communications from the user having the shared resource to each of the plurality of users;

identifying communications from each of the plurality of users to the user having the shared resource; and

tallying each identified communication for each of the plurality of users.

32. (new) The method according to claim 1, wherein determining an access level

comprises:

obtaining a total number of communications with the user having the shared resource for each of the plurality of users based on the social network data;

comparing the total number of communications for each of the plurality of users to an access level table to obtain the access level, the access level table comprising a plurality of access levels based on the total number of communications; and

assigning an access level to each of the plurality of users.